REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for courtesies extended during the Examiner Interview conducted on October 6, 2005.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-5 and 7-26 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 15, and 24 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 7, 15, and 24.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1, 7, 15, and 24 have been amended to clarify the invention recited in the claims. Specifically, claims 1, 15, and 24 have been amended to clarify that the unique authentication parameters include at least one of the following: *(i)* a browser type executing on the wireless client, *(ii)* a type of operating system executing on the wireless client, *(iii)* a version of the browser executing on the wireless client, and *(iv)* a bandwidth of the wireless client. Claim 7 has also been amended to clarify that the particular client type used to select an authentication module is determined using at least one of the aforementioned types of unique authentication parameters. Support for the aforementioned amendments may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0024], [0046], and [0047] of the published application corresponding to the instant application (*i.e.*, US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0033356). No new matter has been added by any of the aforementioned amendments.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 15, 16, and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0068554 ("Dusse") in view of the article entitled "Unified Login with Pluggable Authentication Modules" ("PAM"). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness "...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (*See* MPEP §2143.03). Further, "all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." (*See* MPEP §2143.03). The Applicant respectfully asserts that the references, when combined, fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of the amended independent claims.

The present invention, as recited in the claims, focuses on authenticating wireless devices based on the class of wireless client (*i.e.,* what class of wireless client does the device correspond to), where different authentication modules are invoked based on the class of wireless client. Thus, in the present invention, when a device attempts to access the system, the system determines the class of wireless client using parameters associated with the device (*e.g.,* a browser type executing on the wireless client, a type of operating system executing on the wireless client, a version of the browser executing on the wireless client, and a bandwidth of the wireless client). Once the class of wireless client has been determined, then the appropriate authentication module is invoked. Once the appropriate authentication module has been invoked, authenticating using the appropriate authentication module is performed.

As admitted by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action mailed July 14, 2005, Dusse fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of authentication modules. Further, as discussed during the Examiner Interview, Dusse only discloses one authentication mechanism for authenticating

an individual device. In particular, Dusse discloses a mechanism for authentication of a device using a device ID, where the device ID is used to identify the particular device and to open a user account associated with the device. The user account associated with the device includes authentication information to allow the system to authenticate the device and the user of the device. (*See* Dusse, paragraphs [0037] and [0047]). Thus, the information tracked in Dusse has nothing to do with the class of the device generally, but focuses rather on the individual device itself (*i.e.*, the specific ID of the device).

Further, because Dusse is completely silent with respect to authenticating different classes of wireless clients using unique authentication parameters, Dusse cannot possibly disclose the use of a browser type, operating system type, bandwidth, or browser version of the wireless client to authenticate the wireless client.

Moreover, PAM fails to supply that which Dusse lacks. This is evidenced by the fact that the Examiner only relies upon PAM to teach "a plurality of authentication modules" (*See* Office Action mailed July 14, 2005, p. 3). As discussed during the Examiner Interview of October 6, 2005, PAM discloses a plurality of authentication modules, each of which is invoked depending on the application (*e.g.*, telnet and ftp) that is attempting to access the system. (*See* PAM, Figure 1 and accompanying text). In contrast, as discussed above, the present invention invokes a particular authentication module based on the class of wireless client, and not based on the type of application executing.

Even assuming *arguendo* that PAM discloses invoking the appropriate authentication module based on the class of wireless client, PAM fails to teach or suggest, determining the class of wireless client using specific authentication information including browser version, browser type, bandwidth, and/or the operating system type of the wireless client.

In addition, Applicant asserts that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Dusse and PAM to achieve the claimed invention. The Examiner cannot combine prior art references to render a claimed invention obvious by merely showing that all the limitations of the claimed invention can be found in the prior art references. Instead, there must a suggestion or motivation to combine the references within the prior art references themselves. In other words, regardless of whether prior art references can be combined, there must an indication within the prior art references *expressing desirability* to combine the references. *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (emphasis added). Further, the present application *cannot be used a guide* in reconstructing elements of prior art references to render the claimed invention obvious. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488 (Fed. Cir. 1991) (emphasis added). In the present case, there is no expression of desirability in either Dusse or PAM that would cause one skilled in the art to turn to the teachings of the other.

Specifically, as described above, Dusse fails to contemplate multiple authentication mechanisms. In fact, Dusse only appears to contemplate the use of single authentication module. Thus, if the type of device in Dusse changes, then the authentication mechanism used in Dusse remains the same. Further, there is nothing in Dusse that allows one skilled in the art to leverage the plurality of authentication modules disclosed in PAM because Dusse does not store or keep track of any information, other than the device ID of an individual device, that would allow one skilled in the art to leverage multiple authentication modules to authenticate different classes of wireless clients. Further, PAM lacks any suggestion or motivation to be combined with Dusse as PAM only relates to authentication based on executing applications and not on devices or classes of devices.

In view of the above, it is clear that amended independent claims 1, 7, 15, and 24 are patentable over Dusse and PAM, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent

claims are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-12 and 17-23 stand rejected under 25 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dusse in view of PAM, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,606,663 ("Liao"). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, both Dusse and PAM, alone or in combination, fail to teach the limitations of the amended independent claims. Further, Liao fails to supply that which Dusse and PAM lack. This evidenced by the fact that the Examiner only relies on Liao to teach that service requests comprises header information, including HTTP headers, used to detect the particular client type, and to teach that authentication information is transmitted to the server in an authentication credential stored within the headers (*See* Office Action mailed July 14, 2005, p. 10). In view of the above, amended independent claims 7 and 15 are patentable over Dusse, PAM and Liao whether viewed separately or in combination. Dependent claims 9-12 and 17-23 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dusse in view of PAM, and further in view of "iPlanet Portal Server Administrator Guide," Chapter 6 ("iPlanet"). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, Dusse and PAM, alone or in combination, fail to teach the limitations of amended independent claim 7. Further, iPlanet fails to provide that which Dusse and PAM lack. This is evidenced by the fact that the Examiner only relies on iPlanet to teach particular authentication modules (*i.e.,* a securID module, safeword module, Microsoft

Windows/NT module, membership module, LDAP authentication module, RADIUS authentication module) (*See* Office Action mailed July 14, 2005, p. 14-15).

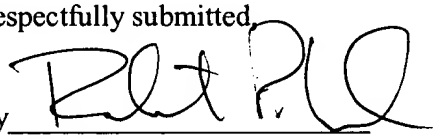
In view of the above, amended independent claim 7 is patentable over Dusse, PAM and iPlanet whether viewed separately or in combination. Dependent claims 13 and 14 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226.538001).

Dated: October 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Robert P. Lord
Registration No.: 46,479
OSHA · LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant

119403_4